



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

May 23, 2017

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:06 p.m.

Present: 8 - Blocker, Campbell, Ibsen, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms, Walker Lee and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Lonergan

Briefing Items

1. [17-0541](#) Chronic Disease and Disparate Health Outcomes

At approximately 12:07 p.m. Dr. Anthony Chen, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department (TPCHD), provided an overview of what chronic diseases are, why they matter, disparities, and opportunities. He noted the life expectancy in the United States is decreasing and half of all Americans have at least one chronic disease. He discussed statistics from a survey focused on Tacoma 10th grade students, and obesity and diabetes rates over time from 1994 to 2013.

Miae Aramori, TPCHD, provided information on lesser known risk factors, kids and sugar, and root causes and risk factors of chronic diseases. She played a brief video clip from "Unnatural Causes" and shared maps of Pierce County of cardiovascular mortality rates, diabetes rates, and life expectancy at birth and at poverty. She discussed what makes people healthy, how to create sustainable change through policy and environmental change, City of Tacoma and Health Department successes, tobacco and vaping, and opportunities to prevent chronic disease.

Discussion ensued regarding tobacco and vape/e-cigarette use and the health impact, health impact assessments and policies, promoting healthy eating, the impact of the landfill, and possible policy decisions to help the community.

2. [17-0542](#) Cushman and Adams Streets Substation Nominations for Register of Historic Places

At approximately 1:05 p.m., Rueben McKnight, Historic Preservation Officer, introduced Chair Katie Pratt and Commissioner James Steel, Landmarks Preservation Commission. Mr. McKnight provided an overview of the historic designation nomination process, the properties, and the interior space included in the nomination. He then discussed the effects of listing a property on the historic register and reviewed the Municipal Code section on historic conditional use permits. Finally, he presented the recommendations of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, General Government staff, and Tacoma Public Utilities staff for the various nominated elements of the property, including the site, exterior and interior of the buildings, and the lattice towers, noting the elements that differ in the recommendations are the interior condenser room and the Adams Street Substation lattice tower. He stated the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee voted to forward the Commission's recommendation to the full City Council for consideration and it is scheduled for the meeting of June 6, 2017.

Clark Mather, Tacoma Public Utilities, stated if the tower is included in the designation and it remains in the current location, it would have significant impacts on the siting of Tacoma Power's 21st Street transmission line, noting the line may have to be rerouted to places in the neighborhood that do not currently have transmission lines.

Discussion ensued regarding public access use for the properties, historic tax credits, incentives or disincentives for developers with historic properties, best and highest use of the properties in the future, what elements to include in the historic designation, and the impacts to Tacoma Public Utilities and the community.

Other Items of Interest

Mayor Strickland stated City Manager Elizabeth Pauli's contract will be before the Council for consideration at tonight's meeting, which will include an annual salary of \$237,348.80, which represents a 5% increase over her prior salary as City Attorney, a City-paid parking space, the employee maximum standard contribution for the 457 IRS deferred compensation plan, a match of up to 3 percent of her salary for the section 401A IRS plan, and paying for any professional licensing fees and training relating to maintaining her license to practice law in Washington State. Mayor Strickland stated Ms. Pauli has request to only have 10 of the 20 days of administrative leave, and she has waived the \$550 monthly car allowance. Brief discussion ensued regarding the severance pay included in the contract.

Committee Reports

Council Member Ibsen stated the Joint Municipal Action Committee heard a great presentation from Dr. Ali Modarres from the University of Washington Tacoma on the South Sound Alliance, noting Dr. Modarres is appreciative of the Council participation so far and is interested in seeing if there was Council interest for formalizing the participation, such as adding it to the list of committees and formally designating a Council Member representative and an alternate.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [17-0543](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, May 18, 2017

Ms. Pauli stated there are three proclamations at tonight's meeting, proclaiming May 2017 as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the week of May 21-27, 2017 as National Public Works Week, and Friday, June 2, 2017 as Gun Violence Awareness Day. She stated two settlement motions are being added to tonight's agenda.

Executive Session - Pending Litigation

MOTION: Council Member Mello moved to convene to an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation, not to exceed 30 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ibsen.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 7 - Blocker, Ibsen, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms, Walker Lee and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 2 - Campbell and Lonergan

The Council convened to Executive Session at 2:00 p.m.

Acting City Attorney Bill Fosbre and Deputy City Attorneys Jean Homan and Margaret Elofson were present.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:30 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk